

# **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET**

## **Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services**

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Second Essex Senatorial District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.*

### **Residents of Second Essex Senatorial District**

#### **Characteristics of Admissions**

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 2.0% (2,294) of these admissions reside in the Second Essex Senatorial District. 6% (138) of admissions from the Second Essex Senatorial District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from Second Essex Senatorial District reported the following characteristics:

- 69% were male and 31% were female.
- 60% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 87% were white non-Latino, 3% were black non-Latino, 6% were Latino, and 4% were other racial categories.
- 70% were never married, 11% were married, and 19% reported not to be married now.
- 27% had less than high school education, 51% completed high school, and 21% had more than high school education.
- 30% were employed.
- 16% were homeless.
- 34% had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Primary Substance of Use**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Second Essex Senatorial District.

<b>Table 1</b>					
<b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
<b>District</b>	41%	32%	9%	4%	1%
<b>State</b>	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

#### **Substances Used in Past Year**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug users (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Use: FY 1995 – FY 2003</b>							
<b>Second Essex Senatorial District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	2,076	1,686	637	648	503	494	349
<b>FY '96</b>	1,957	1,529	556	513	397	569	428
<b>FY '97</b>	1,803	1,443	565	430	248	479	361
<b>FY '98</b>	1,806	1,437	555	514	230	491	330
<b>FY '99</b>	1,744	1,393	578	499	230	470	368
<b>FY '00</b>	2,137	1,598	637	507	221	586	451
<b>FY '01</b>	2,062	1,579	614	517	166	626	422
<b>FY '02</b>	2,732	1,959	797	699	219	957	594
<b>FY '03</b>	2,294	1,531	653	555	167	841	573

### **Heroin and Injection Drug Use**

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Second Essex Senatorial District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

